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R&D Lattice Modeling, Manufacturing, and Inspection

Masters Degree Final Presentation

Graham Arinder

03/30/2020



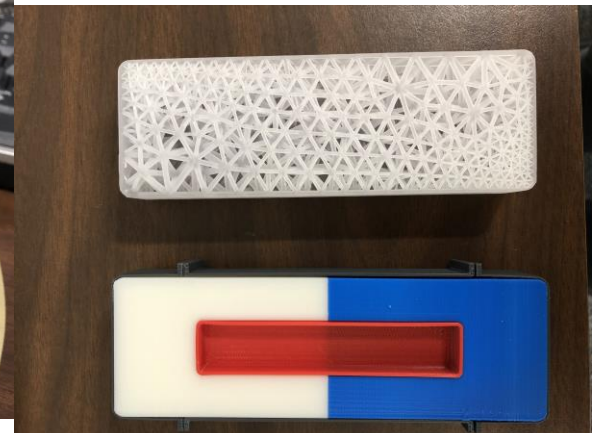
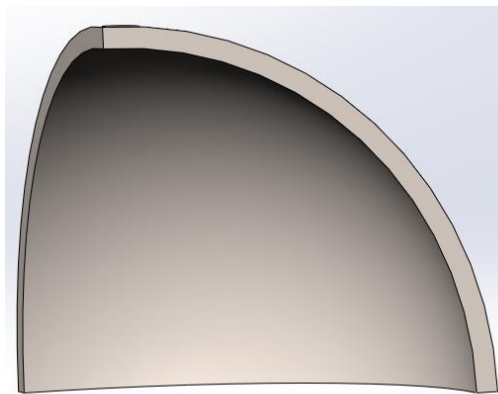
Slides Outline



- Project Background
- Lattice Fundamentals and Basic Research
 - Maxwell Criterion
 - Approximations and Analytical Lattice Solutions
 - Testing
 - Testing Results v. Analytical solutions
- Materials, Methods, Modeling, and Inspection
 - Polymers and Metals
 - Additive Processes and Limitations
 - Limitations of Modeling
 - Inspection techniques and Limitations

Project Background

- Mechanical mocks are useful when substituting components in tests of Large assemblies, when that component isn't specifically being tested.
 - Useful when components are rare, expensive, or hazardous and can be replaced in the test
- Simplest mocks match mass properties. More complex mocks match mechanical properties as well.
 - Varying wall thickness, lattice density, and unit cell changes response while keeping mass the same
- We are asking how to make responses match instead of how low can we go



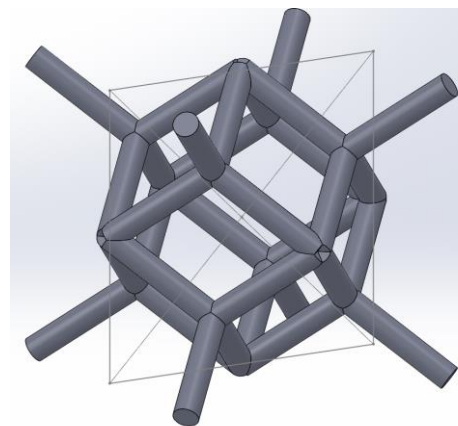
Lattice Fundamentals and Basic Research

Lattice Fundamentals-Stretch vs. Bend Dominated

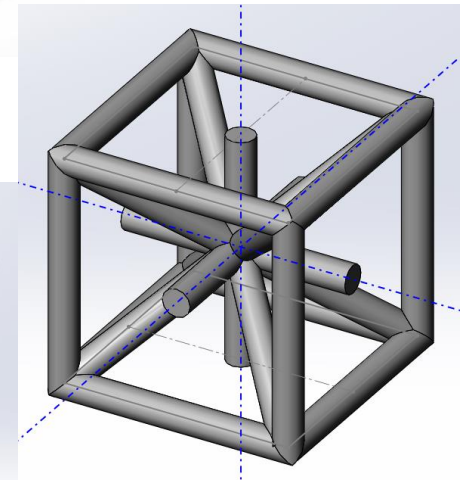
- Lattices can be divided into Stretch and Bend dominated
- Division is based on the results of the 3D Maxwell Criterion [1]
 - $M = b - 3*j + 6$
 - b is the number of struts (beams)
 - j is the number of joints
 - If M is greater than or equal to 0 the lattice is stretch dominated.
 - Lattice is self-supporting if pin joint assumption is made
 - Struts are primarily in tension and compression
 - If M is less than 0, the lattice is bend dominated
 - Lattice is not self-supporting with pin joint assumption
 - Struts are primarily in bending



Octet-- $M=0$



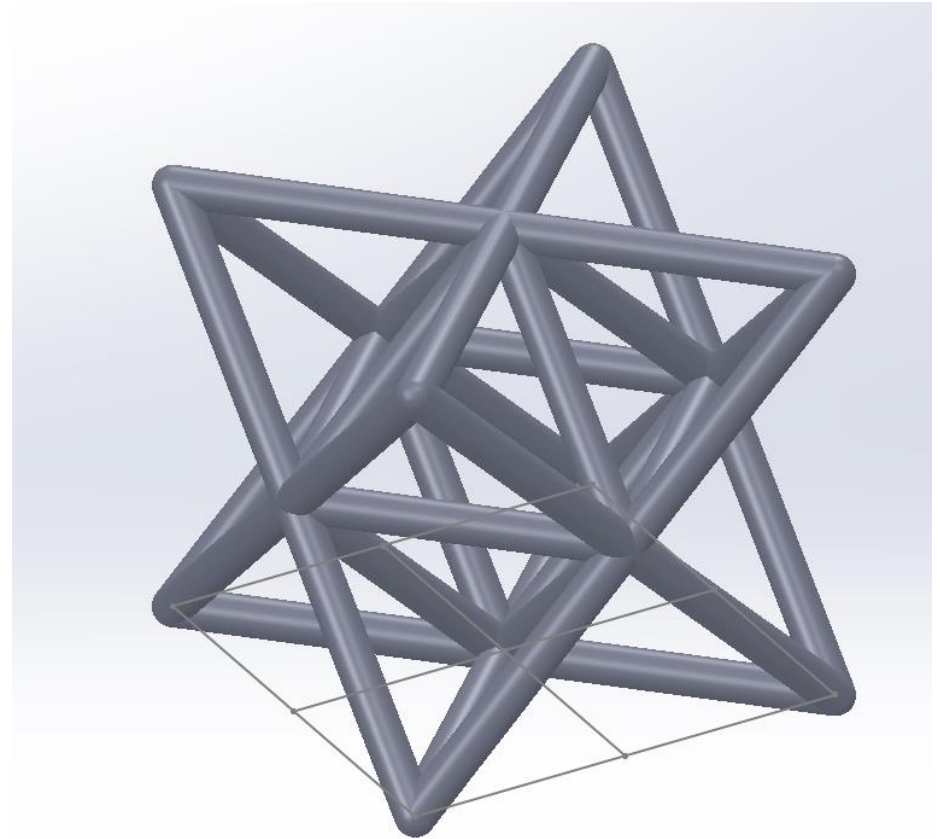
Rhombic Dodecahedron
 $M=-4$



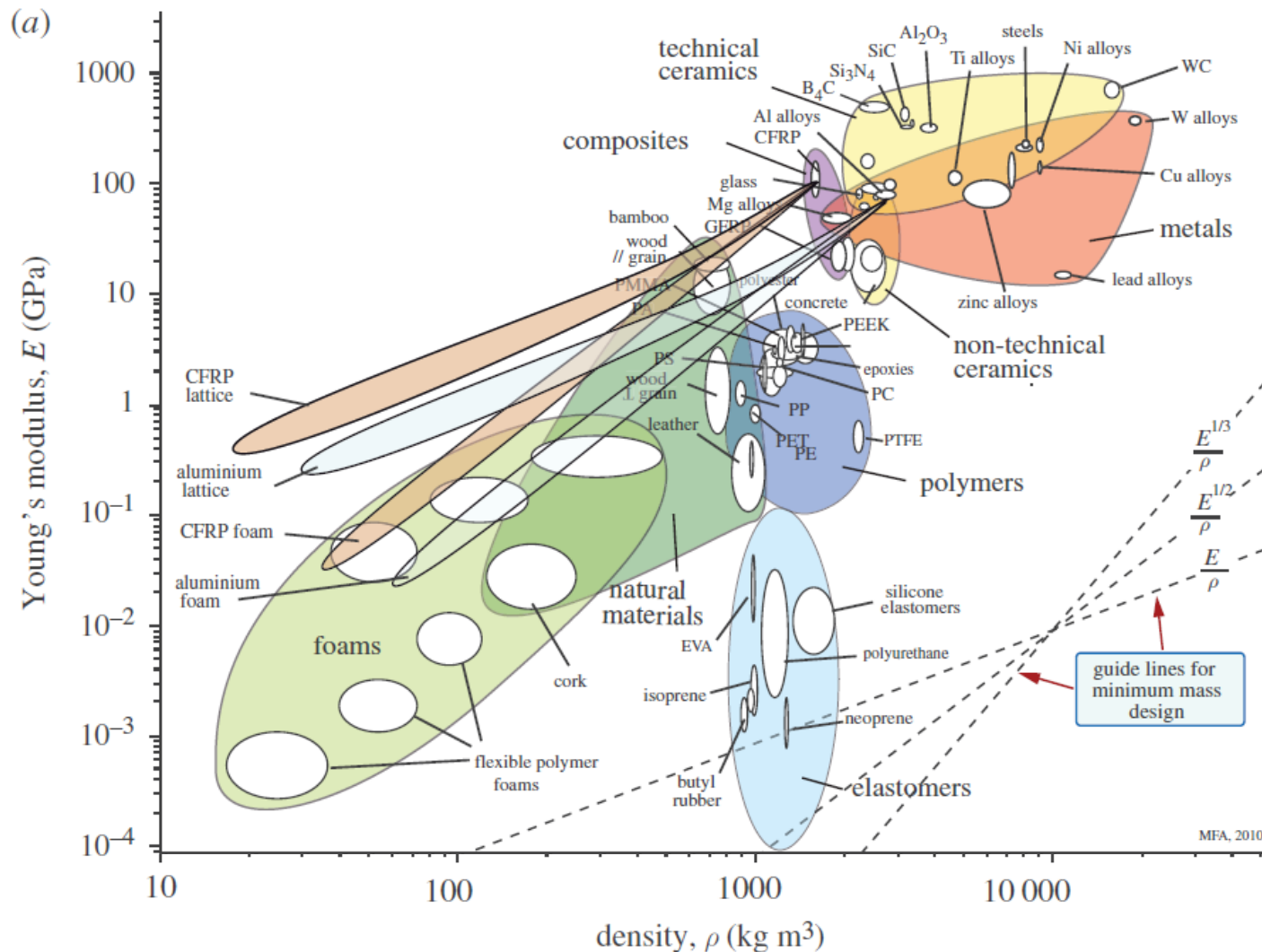
Iso-truss— $M=5$

Lattice Fundamentals-Maxwell Criterion example

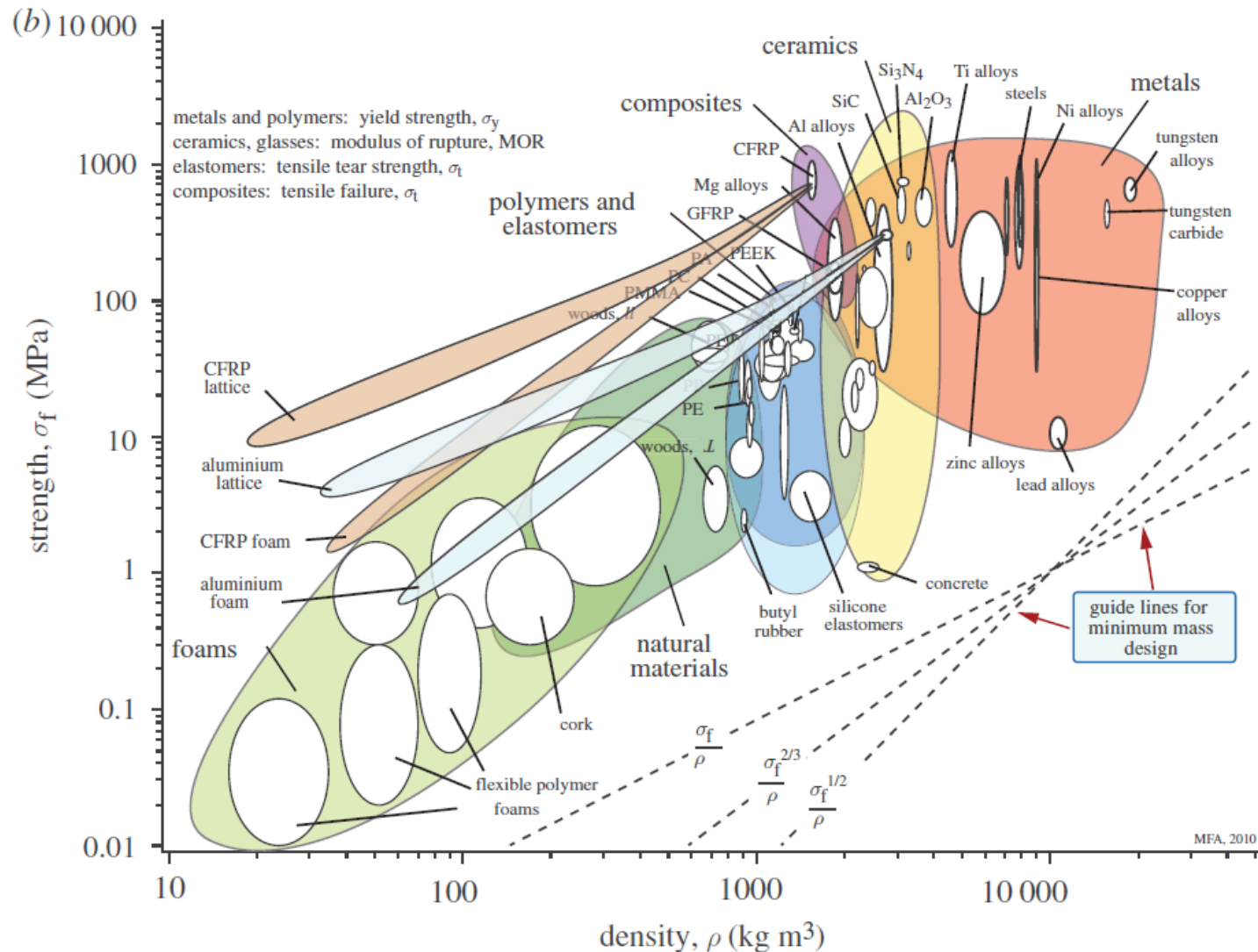
- The octet unit cell has
 - $b=36$
 - $j=14$
- $M=b-3*j+6$
- $M=0$
- Octet is statically determinate
- Using the pin joint assumption, octet could be solved using the method of joints from statics.



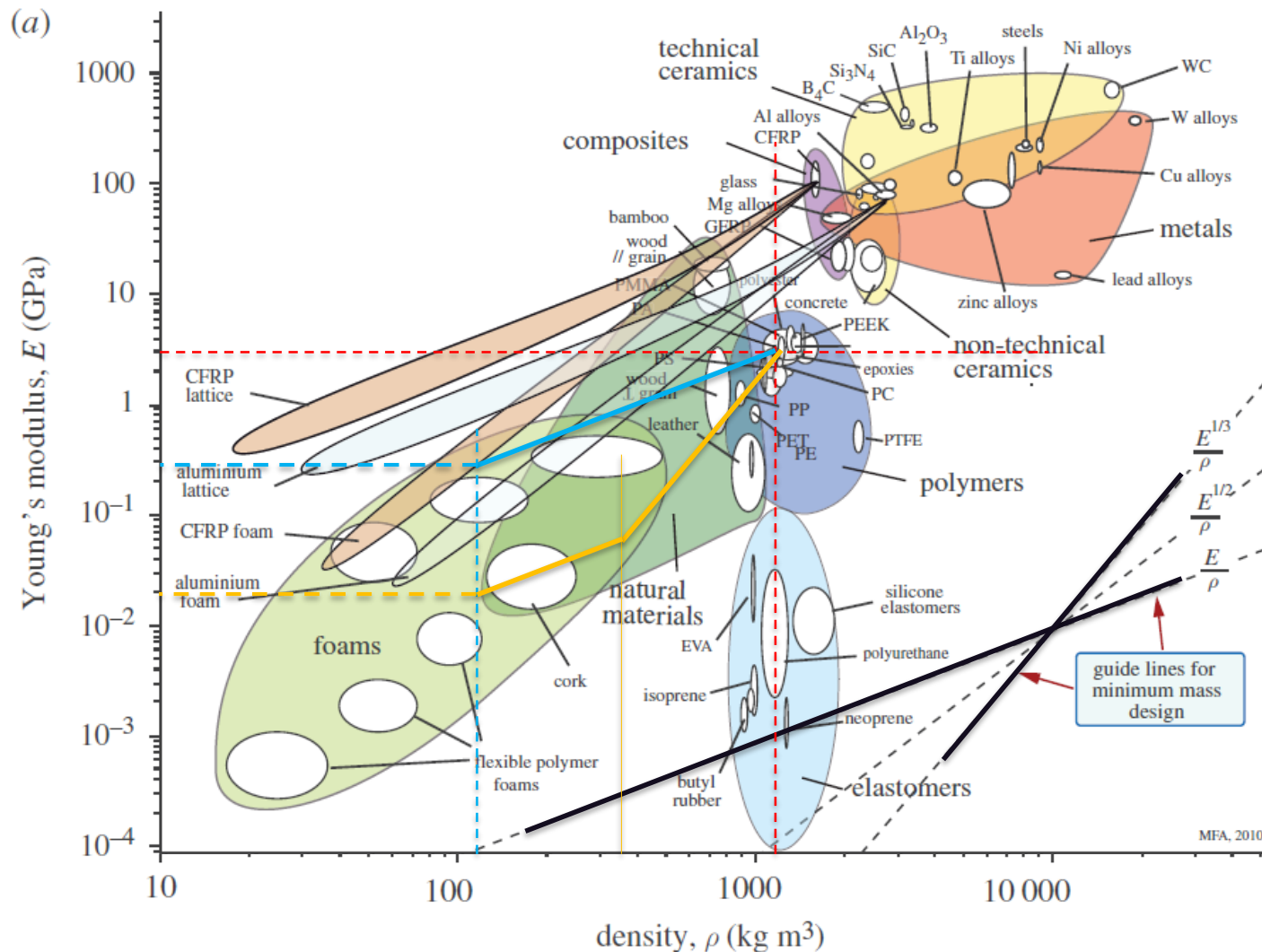
Effective Modulus and Strength-Ashby chart [2]



Effective Modulus and Strength-Ashby chart [2]



Ashby Chart Example—10% Octet Lattice, Formlabs Clear SLA Resin ($\rho=1200 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $E=2.8 \text{ GPa}$) [2]



Effective Modulus and Strength-Octet analytical solutions

- From Messner “Wave propagation” [3] The approximate relative density for an octet lattice is given by:

$$\bar{\rho} = \frac{6\sqrt{2}A}{l^2}$$

- Where A is cross sectional area of the strut, l is length of the strut,
- This equation assumes that the volume of the nodes negligible.
- The effective modulus for an octet lattice with a load applied on an axis can be gained from Messner’s stiffness tensor and is:
 - $E_{eff} = \frac{E\bar{\rho}}{6}$
 - This equation assumes that the octet nodes are pin jointed, and therefore, cannot sustain a moment.
 - Valid for low relative densities (<10%)

Effective Modulus and Strength-Octet analytical solutions

- Deshpande claims in “Effective properties of the octet-truss lattice” [1] that the effective modulus is:

- $E_{eff} = \frac{E\bar{\rho}}{9}$

- However, in his compliance tensor a few lines later, the effective modulus simplifies to $E_{eff} = \frac{E\bar{\rho}}{6}$

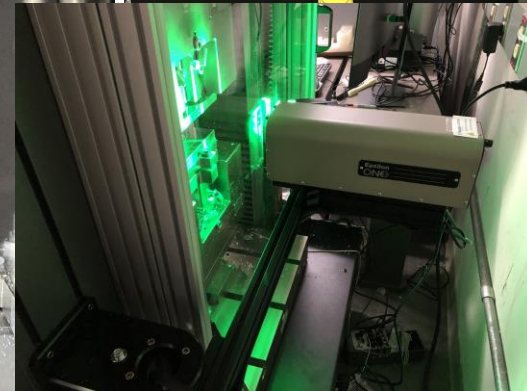
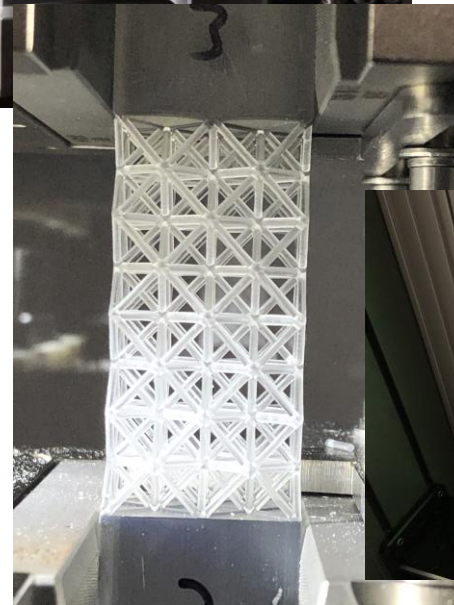
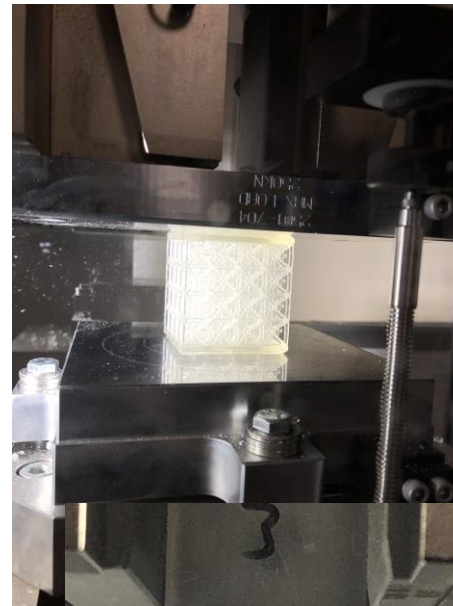
- Since this paper contains conflicting information, Messner’s work is used

- An equation that estimates the strength of an octet lattice can be gained from Fig. 3 of “Effective properties of the octet-truss lattice” paper as well.

- $\sigma_{eff} = \frac{\sigma_y\bar{\rho}}{3}$

Experimental Setup

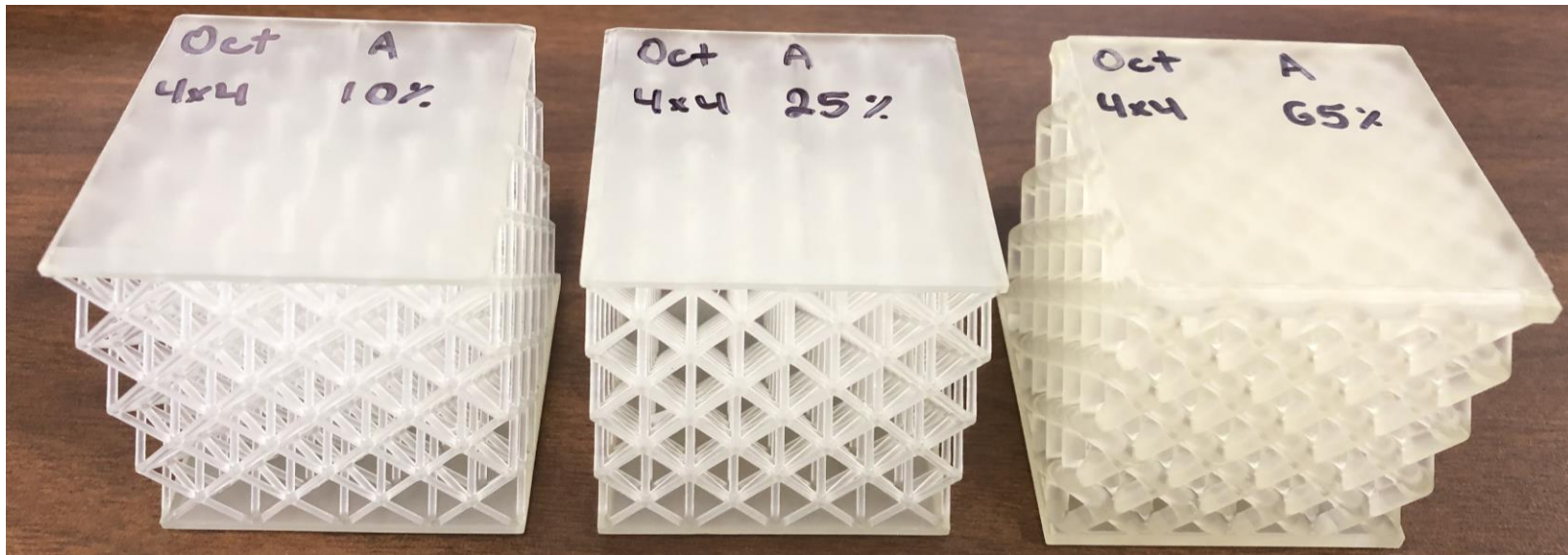
- Instron 5985 Dual column test frame with 250 kN capacity
- EpsilonOne Non-contact extensometer gauge length of 10-50mm (class B-1)
- Compression specimen
 - 2" cube with 0.5" unit cells (SLA)
 - 2" cube 4.2 mm unit cells (Ti-5533)
 - 10%, 25%, 65%
- Tensile specimens
 - 1"x1"x2" test section
 - Same lattice properties as compression



Effective Modulus and Strength-Actual Results

Actual Octet Compression Results v. Approximations and Analytical solutions--
Formlabs Clear SLA Resin (MPa)

| Relative density | Messner | Ashby chart M1 | Ashby chart M2 | LANL FEA | LANL tests |
|------------------|---------|----------------|----------------|----------|------------|
| 10% | 38.3 | 280 | 20 | 32.4 | 31.4 |
| 25% | 95.8 | 800 | 50 | 106.4 | 129.7 |
| 65% | 249.2 | 1900 | 480 | 545.9 | 628.8 |

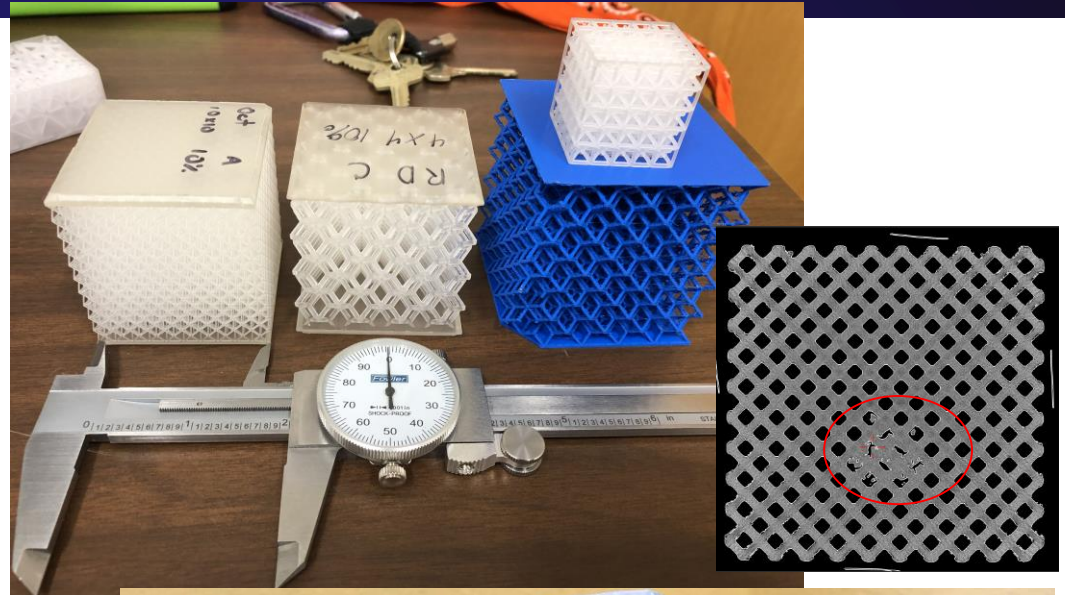


Materials, Processes, Modeling, and Inspection

Materials—AM Polymer

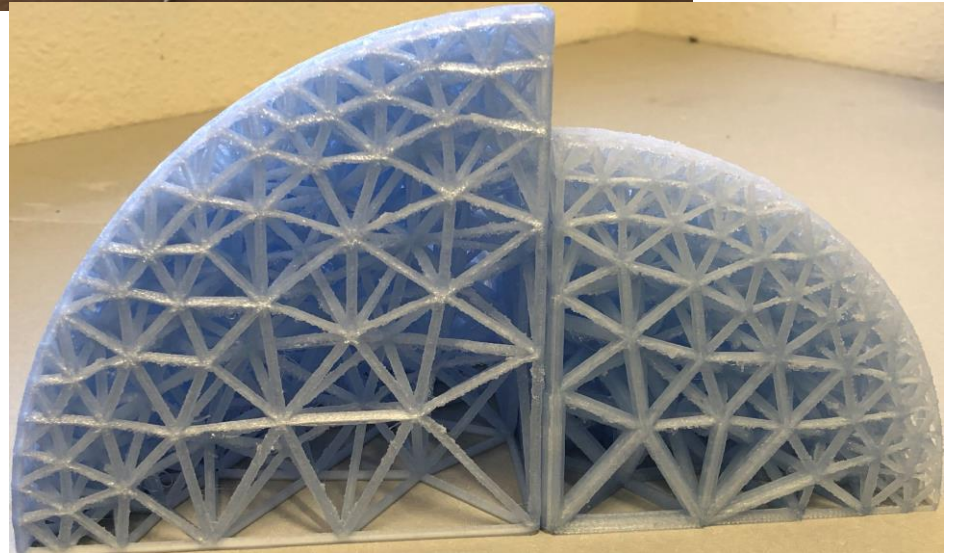
- **SLA resin**

- High detail prints
- Isotropic behavior
- Can be “doped” with different materials to change properties (density, modulus, conductivity)
 - Tungsten, hollow glass spheres, chopped glass and carbon fibers
- Occludes at high density (>65%) and small cell size (~3mm)
- Limited to smaller build volumes (5” cube is common, larger available)



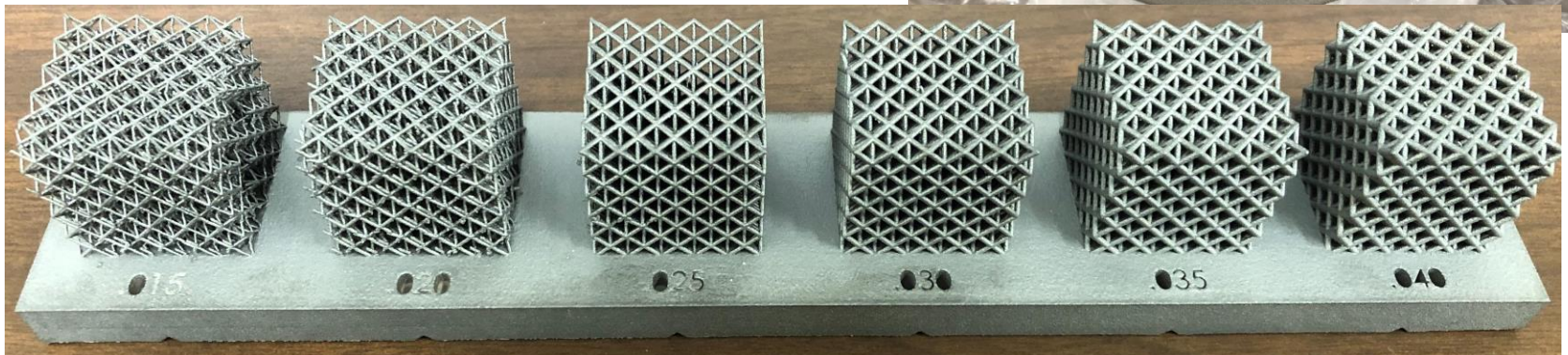
- **FDM**

- Low detail compared to SLA
- Anisotropic behavior ~10% weaker along build layers
- Soluble support allows for long unsupported strut lengths
- Many unfilled and filled materials commercially available
- Very large build volumes are possible
 - Up to 36”x24”x36” at LANL with soluble support



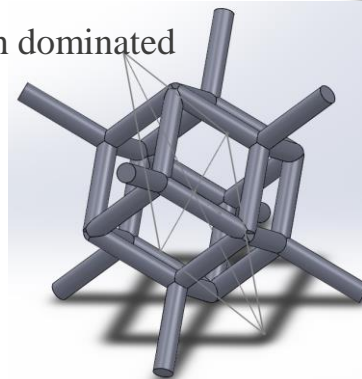
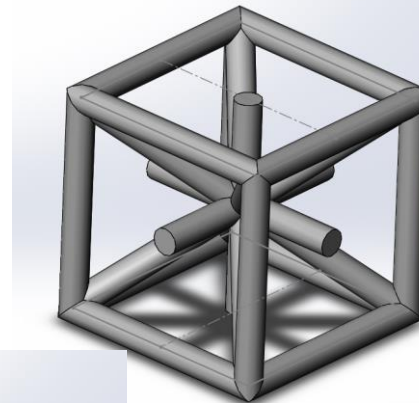
Materials—Metals, Laser Powder bed

- **Ti-6Al-4V**
 - Large Body of research on properties of AM material
 - Areas of high stress cause distortion and build failures, especially on small diameter struts, porosity
- **Ti-5Al-5V-5Mo-3Cr**
 - Less prone to distortion than Ti-64
 - Typically has higher yield strength
- **Other Materials of interest**
 - 316/316L Stainless
 - Aluminum Alloys (AlSi10Mg, A360)
 - Copper



Lattice Types

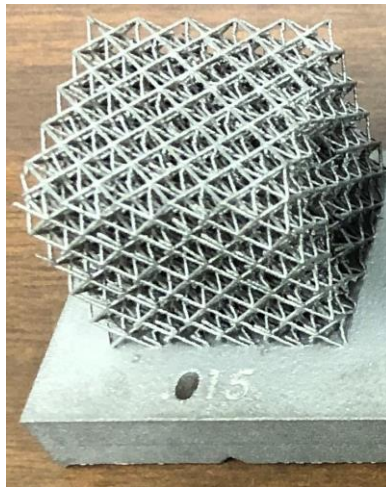
- **Octet**
 - Orthotropic Stretch Dominated Lattice ($M=0$)
 - Has horizontal struts
- **Iso-truss**
 - Projected to have nearly isotropic behavior
 - Stretch dominated ($M=5$)
- **Unstructured Tetrahedral**
 - Stretch Dominated ($M=3?$)
 - Conformal geometry easily produced from FEA meshes
- **Rhombic Dodecahedron**
 - Bend Dominated ($M=-4$)
 - Has no horizontal or low angle struts
- **Other Lattice Types**
 - CORC—($M=-54$), but approaches stretch dominated properties
 - Myriad of Cubic Cells
 - Other unit cell base shapes
 - Hexagonal Close packed



Printing Limitations

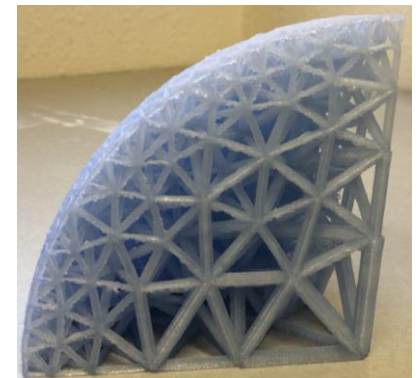
- **Metal**

- Maximum Part Size-~400mm cube
- Maximum unsupported horizontal length-~3-6mm
- Minimum angle for unsupported struts-~45deg
- Minimum strut Diameter-~350um
 - Laser width
 - Strut warp/ catch by recoater blade
- Minimum/Maximum practical relative density-~8%-65%
- Anisotropy in printing process
- Cleaning out powder and parasitic material
- Strut warping/broken struts



- **Polymer**

- Max part size
 - SLA-5.7"x5.7"x7.3 inches (larger is possible)
 - FDM- Up to 36"x24"x36"
- Maximum unsupported horizontal length
 - SLA~.5" (dependent on strut diameter)
 - FDM- nearly unlimited with use of soluble support
- Minimum Strut Diameter
 - SLA~125 um
 - FDM~1.5mm
- Minimum/Maximum Relative Density
 - SLA-<5%-65%
 - FDM
- Material warping
- Resin Occlusion
- Broken Struts



Design and manufacturing Software Limitations

- **CAD Programs**

- Solidworks

- Primarily single threaded application therefore it bogs down significantly as part size increases.
 - 3" hemisphere is the largest successfully made part in Solidworks
 - Solidworks had significant issues with the part and crashed many times
 - Only able to generate non-conformal lattices so far
 - Currently limited to single cell size/density and geometry

- Kansas City National Security Campus Geometry Conformal Lattice Software

- Generates conformal lattice structures
 - Still under development
 - Limited unit cells.

- **TO Programs**

- Ansys will create lattices, but unit cells are limited to their predefined cells.

- Can create variable density lattices based on Ansys TO results

- Octet is the only cell from the earlier list that is available for use

- All available lattices have horizontal struts

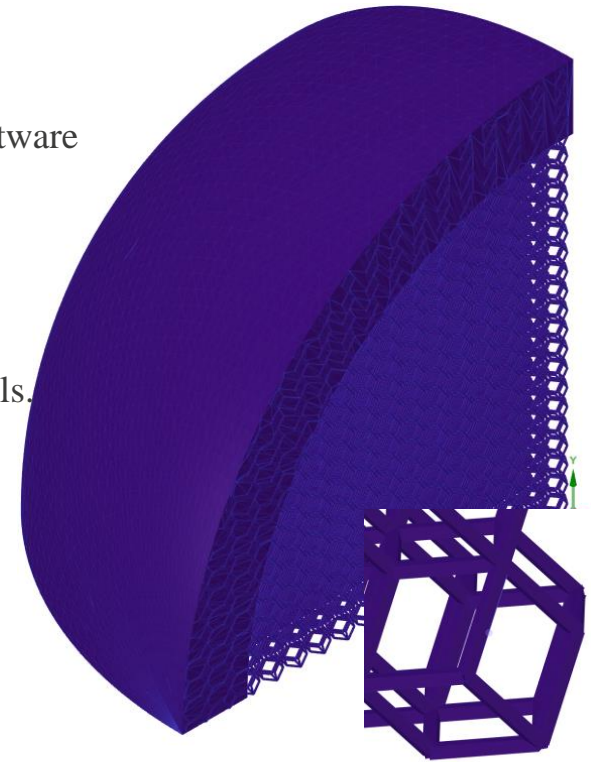
- **Slicing Software**

- CAD programs tend to leave artifacts in STL file when exporting lattices

- Programs hang or crash with large STL sizes

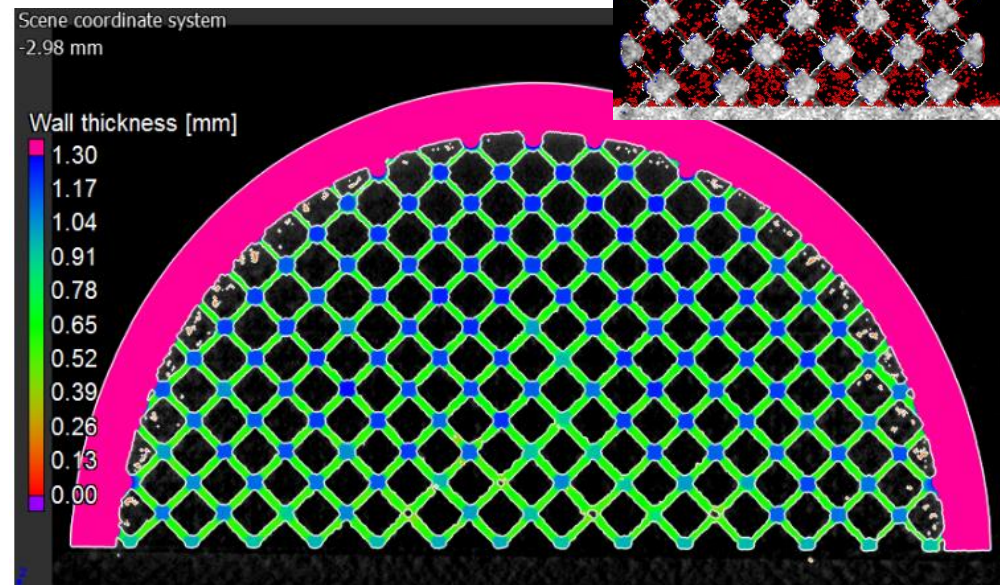
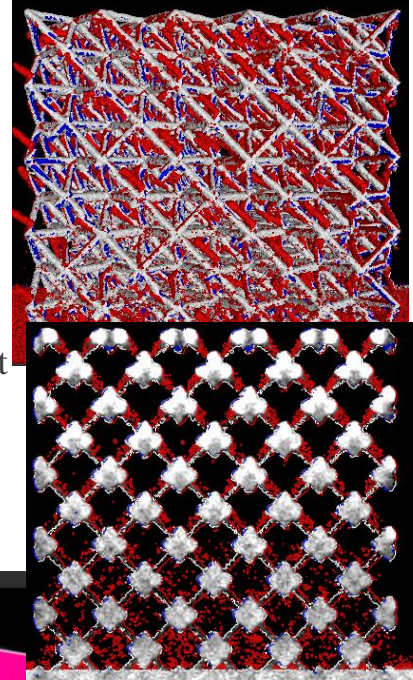
- Many are single threaded when generating support and tool paths.

- 1/8 sphere took over 24 hours to generate and is 35 MB, square struts used to reduce size



Inspection Limitations

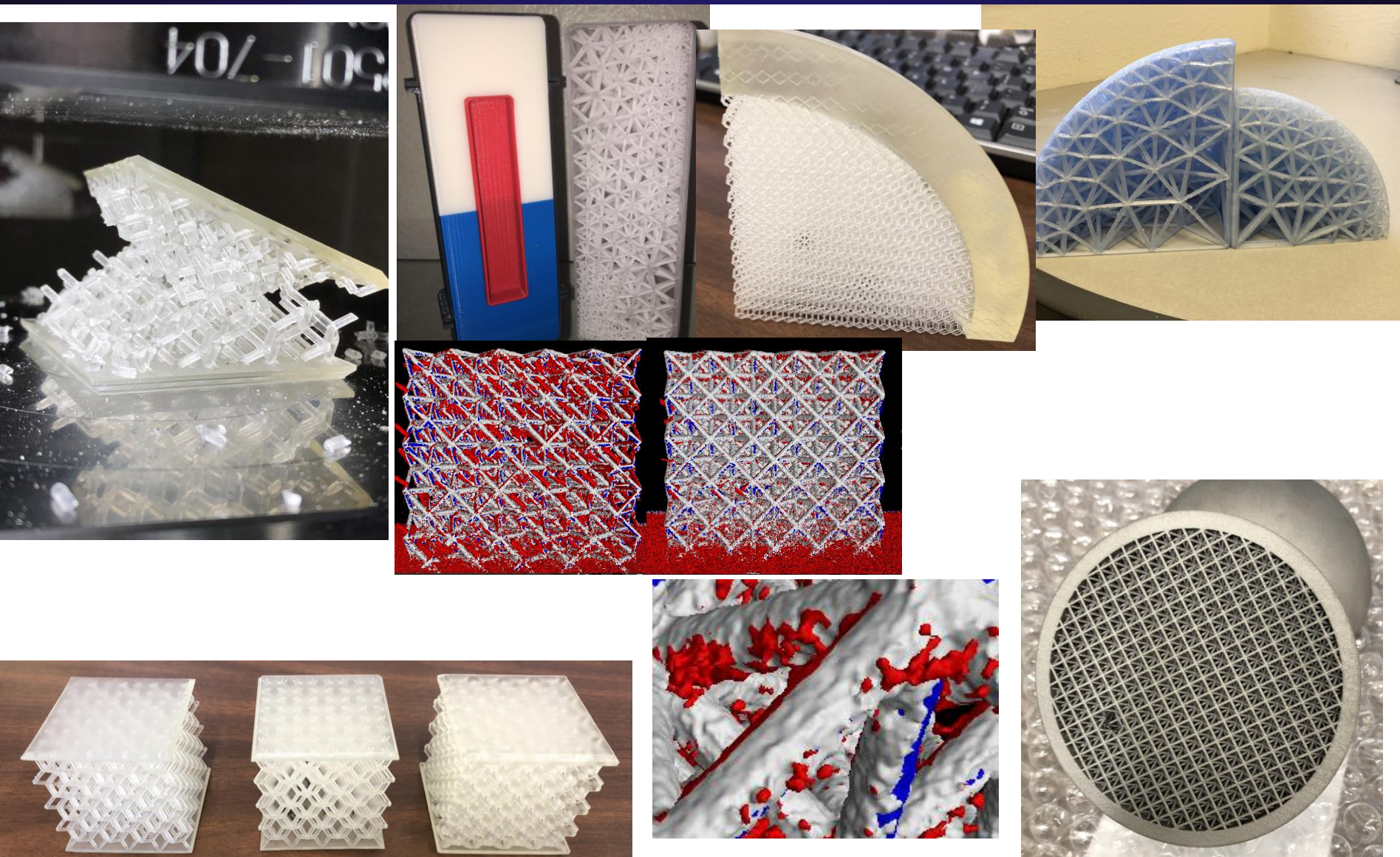
- **Weight/relative density**
 - Few limitations in measuring weight and volume
 - If doing a submerged volume test, must make sure all air is removed from lattice structure
- **Optical Scanning**
 - Only capable of inspecting visible struts in the first few layers of cells
 - Cannot see the back side of struts so assessing the roundness of a strut would be difficult
- **CT Scanning**
 - Noise caused by x-ray scatter
 - Orange disconnected blobs in image
 - Lack of penetration in metals
 - Voids at lattice nodes
 - Part envelope of 20-30" machine dependent
 - High density parts require higher power which reduces scan resolution
 - For Ti parts, max practical size may be only 6-8" in diameter (with current equipment)
 - Images must be meticulously studied for flaws
 - May be possible to automate this process.
- **Other internal imaging techniques may be possible**



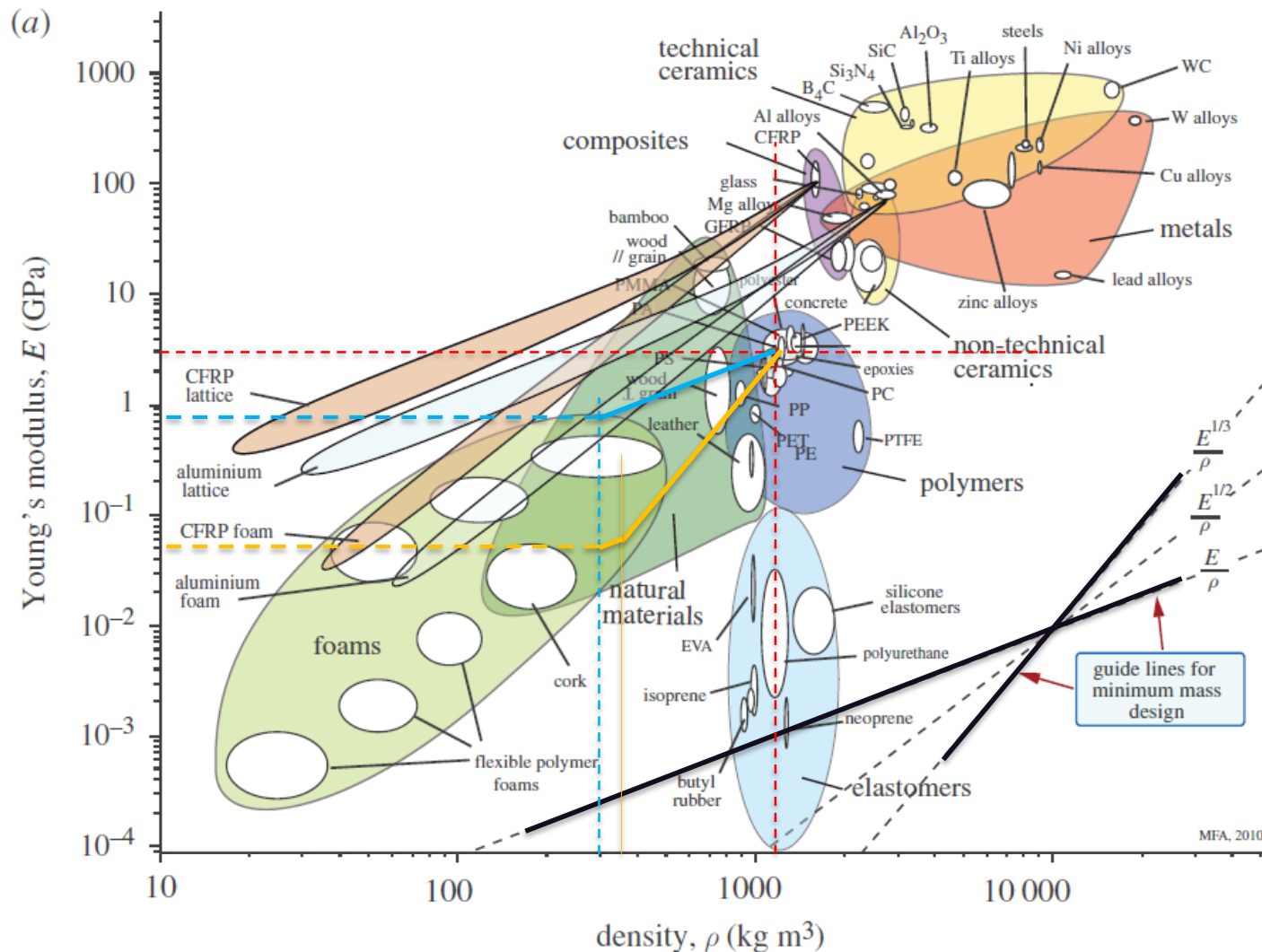
References

- [1] Deshpande, V. S., Fleck, N. A., & Ashby, M. F. (2001). Effective properties of the octet-truss lattice material. *Journal of the Mechanics and Physics of Solids*, 49(8), 1747-1769
- [2] Fleck, N. A., Deshpande, V. S., & Ashby, M. F. (2010). Micro-architected materials: past, present and future. *Proceedings of the Royal Society A: Mathematical, Physical and Engineering Sciences*, 466(2121), 2495-2516.
- [3] Messner, M. C., Barham, M. I., Kumar, M., & Barton, N. R. (2015). Wave propagation in equivalent continua representing truss lattice materials. *International Journal of Solids and Structures*, 73, 55-66.

Questions?



Ashby Chart Example—25% Octet Lattice, Formlabs Clear SLA Resin ($\rho=1200 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $E=2.8 \text{ GPa}$) [2]



Ashby Chart Example—10% Octet Lattice, Formlabs Clear SLA Resin ($\rho=1200 \text{ kg/m}^3$, $E=2.8 \text{ GPa}$) [2]

